

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

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COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Brandis Airfield

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED 25 May 1955

REFERENCES

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

ATTACHMENT

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. Between 18 March and 16 April 1955, individual MiG-15s and Il-10s repeatedly crossed over Brandis airfield. On 22 March, one MiG-15 landed at 1330 and again took off at 1700. ¹
2. Drilling and firing was practiced on 18 and 31 March and on 2, 3, 9 and 10 April.
3. The unloading of runway mats near hangar No 6 continued. The piles of runway mats near hangar No 6 had doubled by 20 March. In addition to runway mats, truck bodies were also unloaded. Between 25 and 27 March, a total of 5 cars were unloaded near hangar 6 by means of hoisting gears. Two cars were unloaded on 31 March and 3 cars on 2 April. ²

4. The following motor vehicles were observed on various days:

Sedan

[redacted] driver wearing black-bordered blue epaulets

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Trucks[redacted] driver wearing red-bordered black epaulets
" " black-bordered blue epaulets

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5. On 11 April, the quartering building along the road west of the athletic field and a section of the quarters north of the spur track were occupied by a total of about 1,400 men wearing black-bordered blue epaulets.
6. On 11 April, 20 to 25 trucks were parked behind the ruins of the former hangars Nos 1 and 2. A total of 40 to 50 caterpillar tractors which had arrived during the preceding days were parked behind hangar 6. ¹

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7. A low-wing monoplane with in-line engine which served as training model on the ground was parked in the small wood east of the athletic field. ³
8. Since 14 April, grading work has been under way on a strip 120 meters long and 80 meters wide west of the southwestern end of the runway. A N-S sand wall 100 meters long was raised along the western edge of the graded strip. Five such walls parallel to each other and 5 meters apart were built by 21 April. ⁴

Shipments

9. 26 March. At 1800, a 96-axle train loaded with a repair unit including 200 men, 3 lathes, various joiner's machines, 2 large generators, several electric motors of various types, 13 three-axle tank trucks and 2-axle trailers, various fire extinguishing equipment, such as CO₂ fire fighting carts, 2 foam extinguishers for aircraft and small fire fighting equipment of various types; 1 tractor of Lanz make and 9 two-axle trucks arrived. The small implements were stored in the repair hangar. The trucks and tank trucks were parked in front of the repair hangar.

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25 March to 5 April. Seven railroad tank cars each with 20,000 liters of fuel arrived from Frankfurt/Oder. Eleven railroad cars with sheet metal arrived for Major Yunin (fnu). [redacted] the sheets were 2.75 meters long 30 to 35 cm wide and 4 to 5 mm thick. Each sheet had 10 to 12 metal clips for suspension. About 30 cars of this ~~same~~ type sheet metal had to be stored in the open since hangars Nos 4 and 6 were already occupied to capacity. As of 5 April a total of about 400 cars with these sheets had arrived. During the same period, 6 cars with briquettes arrived for Major Roshkov (fnu).

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8 April. Three cars with sheet metal for Major Yunin and 1 flatcar with 2 two-axle trucks arrived.

9 April. Two cars with sheet metal for Major Yunin and 2 boxcars with rations arrived. The foodstuff, including herring, noodles, salt, flour, and cans were hauled to the warehouse. The two boxcars came from Werneuchen.

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10. April. Five cars with sheet metal for Major Yunin and 2 railroad tank cars from Frankfurt/Oder arrived. The fuel from the tank cars was transferred into the gasoline dump. Two flatcars with 1 small tank car with about 3,000 liters of fuel and a two-axle trailer, 1 ~~single-axle~~ truck [redacted] and 1 boxcar with clothing and 15 escorting personnel were dispatched to Leipzig-Engelsdorf.

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14 April. Seven cars with sheet metal for Major Yunin and 4 cars with coal for Major Roshkov arrived.

10. Ration supply was to be picked up by truck at Grimma warehouse. Bread was delivered from the Taubert bakery in Brandis. ²
11. In addition to drilling and firing, fatigue duty was intensified. During the preceding weeks, the soldiers were busily engaged in clearing work. The landing field which had been ratted by tanks was entirely reconditioned by 3 tractors and water-filled rollers. ¹

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12. On 1 April, the gangs of masons, electricians and painters were ~~dis~~ dismissed without notice. Only the interpreter remained at the field.

1. Comment. Brandis airfield is still not occupied by an air unit. The retraining of the ground attack regiment previously stationed at Brandis airfield has apparently not yet been completed.

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2. Comment. The metal sheets which were observed currently arriving in Brandis were most probably steel runway mats and presumably will be stored only temporarily in Brandis and then later distributed to other airfields. Major Yunin who is mentioned in connection with the arrival of these sheets is unknown. The arrival of truck bodies cannot be commented on. The consignee of coal shipments Major Roshkov is reported for the first time. It is unknown where the repair unit which arrived on 26 March 1955 was previously located. It is possible that it came from the USSR in connection with the other arrivals. The information on the arrival of rations from Werneuchen has been confirmed by the shipments which reportedly left Werneuchen airfield. This information again indicates that the small unit in Brandis is connected with the bomber units.

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The supplies from the warehouse in Grimma seem to be PX goods.

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3. Comment. This information is received for the first time.

4. Comment. It remains to be seen whether the runway will be enlarged. The purpose of the sand walls is unknown.

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